Demands for Supplementary Grants·
Scientific, etc., Department—C.
Industrial Museum—Rs. 5,226.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Sir, I moved yesterday for a supplementary grant of Rs. 5,226 on account of Scientific, etc., Departments. That motion was not considered in detail because the memorandum which was placed on the Table yesterday morning had to be studied by the Hon'ble Members before they came to any final decision.

I do not want to go into the details of the transactions that have led to this request to write off the amount. But at the same time I think I should invite the attention of the Hon'ble Members to one or two salient facts connected with it. This arose out of the Museum purchasing cloths worth about Rs. 11,000 and odd from Kuthampilly Weavers' Society and finding it difficult later on to dispose of the stock at the book value. In this particular transaction, I think, the relevant issues, to which this House will have to give their earnest attention, are whether the officer who bought these things did it under proper orders and directions, or whether he acted on his own responsibility in venturing into this transaction, which, later on, has brought about this deficit to the Government. That is, I think, the most important question that is in the heart of this demand. That is the first and foremost point to be considered. And then the second point that arises is whether, after having purchased this cloth, the officers concerned did not make their best efforts to dispose of the stock. These are, I think, two of the most important and relevant issues that arise out of this purchase.

Regarding the first, there have been Government orders on the point and the officer concerned has simply acted up to the terms contained in the Proceedings.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Will the Hon'ble Member kindly quote that order, final orders for the purchase of cloths?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The Order is C. No. 4031 of 1096, dated 29th June 1921.

"The proposals of the Superintendent of Industries are approved. A Cheque No. 77230, dated 28th June 1921, for Rs. 3,535—11—6 in favour of Rao Sahib G. Subbiah Chettiar on the National Bank of India is forwarded to the Superintendent of Industries. The Comptroller of Accounts is requested to make the necessary adjustment."

If you want the details of this, the proposals of the Superintendent of Industries should be read along with this. The order refers to that. "The proposals of the Superintendent of Industries are approved."

President.—That is only for Rs. 3,000 and odd

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Rama Varmha Tampuran.—That is only for a particular amount that was needed at that moment. But then the order contains that the proposals of the Superintendent of Industries are approved. If that too is read with this the whole thing will be clear. It is a long report. The Superintendent of Industries was like an Industrial Secretary—his position was something like that—and this is a note submitted by him to the Huzur direct.

President.—You refer to late Mr. Subbuswami Ayyar. Let us not drag his name.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the first order?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—G. O. C. No. 4031 of 1096, dated 29th June 1921.

I shall read the proposals of the Superintendent of Industries.

"Government have been pleased to advance Rs. 9,964—4—6 to the Weavers' Co-operative Society, Kuthampilly, and the Society has executed two bonds for Rs. 12,000 (one bond for Rs. 8,000 and the other for Rs. 4,000). A third bond for Rs. 3,000 will be taken from them. There is in stock at Kuthampilly a bale of 60's. All the other varieties of yarn are exhausted. Nearly Rs. 5,000 worth of manufactured articles have been received. Rs. 500 worth have been sold. As Mithunam and Karkadagam are dull months of the year, it would take time to sell the stock. The stock already sold to the Museum is rapidly selling even at the high prices then fixed. The prices are now cheaper in spite of the increased cost of the yarn. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies in charge of the Museum is willing to take the whole stock as he is confident of a rapid sale. He says, however, that the funds at his disposal are not sufficient to pay for the whole stock immediately as the Society wants the same for paying coolies, etc. As this is a recoverable item, it is submitted that Government may be pleased to place the necessary additional funds at his disposal and permit him to buy this stock which will not exceed Rs. 4,000. Otherwise the poor weavers will have to take loan from Government paying an interest and keeping at the same time their stock on hand. This will be ruinous to them." Here it is the most relevant portion comes in. "In discussing the scheme at the earliest stage, Government had expressed their willingness to arrange for the purchase of the stock in dull season. When the organisation regarding the agencies is complete, even this may not be necessary. The following kinds of yarn are immediately wanted for giving work for the looms that are now idle for want of yarn.

1.	40's	1½	bale about	1,500
2.	60's latham	50		700
3.	80's	50		1,250
4.	100's	5		140
			Rs.	3,590

Over and above this, about Rs. 2,000 will be required for payment of wages. Stock will, no doubt, be coming in rapidly but sales will be dull for the next 1½ months. A consignment of yarn has just arrived in Madras

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and Rao Sahib G. Subbiah Chetty reports that the prices are fair just now and they are expected to go up a little later. Further it is rumoured that no consignments are expected for the next 6 months on account of shipping difficulties. 80's have already risen in price from Rs. 24 to Rs. 25-8—0. Purchases have, therefore, to be made immediately before stock is exhausted. It will be some time before the manufactured stock is given to the Museum and money realised. Kind orders are, therefore, solicited for issue of a cheque on the National Bank of India for Rs. 3,535—11—6 payable to Rao Sahib G. Subbiah Chettiar. The cheque may kindly be crossed. The necessary bill will be sent to the Comptroller of Accounts for adjustment. Mr. Subbiah Chettiar will be instructed to purchase the yarn immediately. Rs. 200 was despatched this morning out of the sale of the manufactured stock as an advance for yarn required. The total loan to the Society will only be Rs. 13,500 as against Rs. 15,000 sanctioned. When the sale proceeds come in, Rs. 2,000 will be kept for wages and 20 marks of gold thread will be purchased. The balance will be remitted into the Treasury as a temporary repayment with permission to draw it again if necessary for purchase of materials." And all these proposals of the Superintendent of Industries were approved by the Government.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know whether any order has been issued as to the disposal of these goods?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—After the purchase of these articles, several orders were issued on that point at different stages.

President.—The officers who were in charge of these goods, were they taking prompt steps in disposing of these articles?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That is the point that the House wants to know now. Whether they tried to sell and convert these goods into cash promptly.

President.—After the stock was purchased, they were in charge of the Superintendent of the Museum, I think.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—All these were in the charge of the Superintendent of the Museum.

President.—Who were the Superintendents during that time?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Messrs. Gayatrinatha Ayyar and later on Rao Sahib Kochugovinda Marar were in charge of the Museum.

President.—Were definite orders issued to them to sell these articles?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Yes. Several orders have been issued.

All the proceedings are in this report, and if any more are needed, we shall try to pick them up.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Mr. Subbuswami Iyer is gone and we cannot take him to task. He has gone before a higher tribunal

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These goods were in the Museum for 4 or 5 years or longer still. I want to know what attempts or efforts were made by the responsible officers to sell these goods.

President.—Are you primarily concerned with the purchase or with the sale of these goods?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—As regards the purchase of these goods, if there is a Government order, the question whether such orders were complied with and whether they were properly purchased need not be discussed here, as the person who has effected these purchases has been called before a higher tribunal and cannot be made to account. As regards the sale of these articles, if the officers in charge have done their duty, and this damage is entirely due to the fluctuations of the market price of the article, the House must be satisfied. What we want to see is whether, during this 4 or 5 years, the responsible people took such steps as an ordinary individual who invests money on such goods would have taken. Would any one starting a Jowli(ജവ്വരി) trade purchase goods and allow those goods to become worthless by keeping them for years and years together? So what we want to know is whether the responsible people have taken such steps as an owner would have done. Recently we came across the same state of things in connection with the Chalakudi firewood store. These little things should not happen. We have got highly paid men and it is their duty to look after these things. Otherwise, we will have to write off amounts like Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. What we want is to concentrate the attention of the Government and see how exactly this has come about. It is not an insinuation. We do not make any insinuation. It may be that the responsible officers might have done their duty. We want to know what was done. To wait for 5 or 6 years to make a sale of these articles is rather a peculiar state of affairs. That is all that I have to state.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—What happened was that these cloths were good when purchased. Naturally they were expected to know the peculiarity of this cloth trade. It ought to have been kept washed; then it would have lasted. If you keep these things unwashed for some time, they become quite useless. Nobody would purchase it. I have myself seen specimens of the cloths auctioned. It may be that at the time the yarn was purchased the price of the same was higher and at the time of our disposing the price of yarn was lower. Therefore, the price of the cloth also lowered. So they could not get a market at all. Further the quality was inferior and the value had gone down. That is the reason why no sale was effected. It is very difficult to know the technical side of these things. Unwashed cloth is different from washed cloth from the commercial point. It is why they

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deteriorated. The real person to be dealt with, if at all he is culpable, he has gone to a higher tribunal to answer for any omission or commission. So far as these people are concerned, we have nothing to bring forward. If these people are to be relieved of their responsibilities, then we want the Government to show a little more generosity to the poor fellows from whom you are collecting money. I hope you are going to show generosity to the poor weavers also to relieve all of them of their responsibility.

Point of order under Rule 53 (i) & (ii).

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Sir, I wish to raise a point of order. I wanted to raise it at the very beginning. Since the Secretary was going on with his motion, I never thought of interrupting him. My reason for this point of order is this: Whether a supplementary grant of this nature can be brought before the House at this stage. Rule 53 (i) says "the amount voted in the Budget for a grant for which the vote of the Council is necessary, is found to be insufficient for the purpose of the current year, or (ii) a need arises during the current year for expenditure for which the vote of the Council is necessary upon some new service not contemplated in the Budget for that year". I want to know whether a grant of this nature can be brought before the House at this stage. I watched all the while just to see what the present Secretary has to say on this item. Since the discussion has commenced I now take the opportunity of presenting this to you. In the budget the following reductions have also been made by the Government. So I do not know whether this could come before the House at this stage. Of course,.....

President.—I thought this matter came up before the Budget Session. There was an understanding then that this might be brought afterwards with fuller explanations. At that time the facts were not before the House, and the Government were not able to place all the facts. So it is in that way that this question has come up before the House now. It is treated as a continuation of that matter.

Is it your point that this should come in the next Budget Session only?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Yes, that is my idea. I want a ruling from the Chair.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—May I know what the point of order is?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Whether this supplementary grant can be brought before the Council now. Rule 53 (i) and (ii) is against doing so.

President.—The Rule lays down that a supplementary grant should come before the House if the amount voted is

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found insufficient for the purpose of the current year; or if you ask for an additional grant then a need should arise for some new service not contemplated in the budget for that year. These are the two cases contemplated by these two clauses, and the present case cannot be considered as a new service. Nor can it be considered to be a case of insufficiency. The amount, after all, as has been repeatedly pointed out, is only a recent adjustment. This is not a case of expenditure. Some advance has been made and that must be adjusted. We do not want any amount at all. We do not want the Council to vote a particular sum for the purpose of incurring any actual expenditure. This is only to adjust the account and it is to find a place in the accounts.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—But in the agenda it is stated as a supplementary grant.

President.—It is not a case of an insufficiency of amount or that of an amount to be expended upon a new service.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The point of order is correct. Neither is the grant found insufficient nor is this for a new service.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—I request the House to take this to a future session.

President.—Even assuming that this has been included in the budget, is it a case of new service or is it a case of insufficiency of the amount?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It has already come in the budget and at the request of the House this was put to this sitting.

President.—This can be treated as a budget grant, as a continuation of the budget grant.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In the budget it is stated that the following reductions have been made by the Government.

Dr. A. R. Menon.—The amount has already been spent, then it must not be a supplementary grant.

President.—We do not want to spend any amount hereafter.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then a statement should have been placed on the Table.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—It is for the amount to be spent.

President.—The following reductions have been made in the budget issued in the light of the discussions in the Council. 'Scientific Departments—Rs. 5,226'. That makes a reference to the discussion. What are the discussions?

Dr. A. G. Menon.—We wanted a statement to be placed before this subject was taken up. It was I who moved that.

President.—It should not be read by itself. It must be read in the light of the discussions. These discussions show

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that the House desired to have a memorandum containing all the facts that have taken place, and some conclusion must now be arrived at.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May be ruled one way or the other. The question must be considered.

President.—The statement draws attention to the discussion. In the light of the discussion of this matter a memorandum was desired to be placed on the Table and that has been done.

Have you finished, Dr. A. R. Menon? The discussion may go on.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—The Hon'ble the Secretary has not finished his speech.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I have practically finished.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—He promised to read some paper in which we can get more information.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The Member wanted the date of the Proceedings on which orders have been issued to dispose of the cloth.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Yes.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It was contained in Report C. No. 3401, dated 24th April 1924.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—1928.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I shall read the Proceedings. "The Honorary Superintendent of Museum is requested to report what exactly is the cost of articles made during Mr. Ananthakrishna Ayyar's time exclusive of the ones which now remain unsold. A separate statement may be submitted". The next is the order to reasonably dispose of the articles at whatever prices they would fetch.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—When were they sold?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—They were sold at different times.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—How long after that?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—This is the report of the Honorary Superintendent. Government, in D. P. C. No. 3401, the one I referred to, that ordered to dispose off the stock at whatever prices it might fetch. "The stock in the meanwhile began to deteriorate, and in view of the serious damage caused to it, the Government, in D. P., dated 24th April, R. O. C. No. 3401 of 1098, ordered its sale at whatever prices it might fetch. In obedience to this order offers were invited from leading merchants for the purchase of the whole stock. The offers received were disappointingly low, the highest amounting to only 30 per cent of the cost with option to select patterns of approved quality. As the major portion of the stock consisted of unapproved patterns, this offer had to be rejected. It being deemed ruinous to retain the stock any further, steps were taken to dispose of it at the fairs and festivals in various places in Cochin, Travancore and Malabar. Bundles of cloth were taken to the fairs of Irinjalakkuda

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Ottupara, Vaniamkulam, etc., and to Guruvayur during the annual *Ekadesi* festival; to Trippunithura during the *Utsavam*, to Kavalappara during the *vela*, to Alwaye during the *Sivarathri*, to Cranganur during *Baharani*, and were sold in retail and in auction. The D. P. ordering the disposal of the stock was passed towards the end of 1098 and every endeavour was made to make the best of an exceedingly bad bargain. Most of the stock consisted of *Pavu mundus* and these could be sold during particular seasons. The sales, therefore, naturally took time, and by the close of 1101, the whole stock was cleared. Considering the poor quality of the stock and the high cost of production the prices realised must be deemed satisfactory."

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That will do, Sir. It is a sorry business.

President.—The whole cloth was sold by what time?

Râma Varmha Tampuran.—By 1101, Sir.

President.—Shall we proceed with the discussion?

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Yes.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—On a point of information. I should like to know what amount has been decreed to be realised from these weavers of Kuthampilly.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Approximately.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know. Rs. 7,000 have been outstanding.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Whether any orders have been passed by the Diwan staying the execution proceedings?

President.—Yes. A number of people appeared before me. They said they were molested. The idea is to write off the amount if there is a proper case for it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Then we are agreed.

President.—The report is pending with somebody.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—I have submitted my report.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—My point is all the amount may be written off.

President.—They are all very poor people. The few people who have not joined the society are able to get on. In the case of others as soon as they produce some cloth, the same is attached.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Practically some have left the place.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—Let us have an end of this sorry matter.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Most of the people have actually left the village.

President.—I instructed the Diwan Peishkar not to molest the people.

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—Even before that, I have said that we are in sympathy with the Kuthampilly people.

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Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Some amount has been realised from those people.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—That also may be refunded.

President.—You read something the other day in the Standing Finance Committee.

Mr. A B. Salem.—I have given that paper. I have got my token motion.

President.—Is it a copy of the petition given to me saying that their case is pitiable? Anyhow the result has been very painful. That is the reason why the amount should not be taken from them.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—Every one of us has signed.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We made a reference to the Comptroller of Accounts to know whether we want the Council's sanction to write off the amount. We received a communication stating that the Council's sanction is necessary.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—We are upon that.

President.—Let this Kuthampilly purchase go and also the other thing. Let there be two writings off.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It has to come to the Council as a supplementary grant to write it off. At the next meeting it may come. We will have a motion on that.

President.—It comes under Rule 51.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is only for supplementary demands.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It was not contemplated at the time of the budget.

President.—For what will it come before the Council? It must be written off. It is outstanding in the book of advances. In order to write it off we want the Council's sanction. So it must come as a sort of demand only.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is a demand to write off this now and we agree to that demand. We say that the other also should be written off.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The demand was not contemplated at the time of the budget. So can't it come at the next meeting?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is the demand for? Government is taking steps for recovering certain money.

President.—We say money is not to be recovered, and in the circumstances the amount should be written off. That is the demand. So, for that, the Council must sanction. An equal sum of money credited in the accounts against the Kuthampilly weavers must be voted by the House for the purpose of writing off, for adjusting the book advance. That is what is wanted. The amount is not actually necessary for being spent.

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Dr. A. G. Menon.—That also may be included.

President.—The other thing has not come up yet.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There is no difficulty either.

President.—We must understand the whole thing and come to an agreement. The question is only one of procedure to give effect to our wishes.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—If the worst comes it has to be brought in the next budget sitting.

President.—These people may be given assurances that we will not proceed with the case.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—There will be no difficulty at all, under the Rules.

President.—Under the Rules we are going to write off the amount. That will settle the whole matter.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—That, of course, we have stated already.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I don't withdraw my motion. I will speak upon my motion.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Then what about refunding?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not know the details, how much money has been collected, on what date, etc.

President.—Anyhow there has been no request for refund. The only thing is that they should not be molested any further. I mean, tell them that they will not be molested. It is left to them to return or not. No one is molested. Rs. 6,407 have to be written off. If formal sanction is necessary, that may be applied for. We shall come to the Council during the next budget. Now we shall go on to the next.

Motion No. 1.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—*To omit the allotment of Rs. 5,226 for 'XXIX—Scientific, etc., Departments—Industrial Museum.'*

Mr. A. B. Salem.—Sir, I have tabled for the omission of this grant of Rs. 5,226 for the following reasons. It has been abundantly clear that a mess has been made in the past regarding the purchase of yarn, regarding the registration of a society to turn its yarn into cloth, and regarding the sale of its finished products.

President.—No. Yarn was purchased after the society was formed.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It may be so. From the statement that has been circulated yesterday to Hon'ble Members, it is clear that the Government officers stood between the society and the Government, and it is also clear that money has not been directly paid unto the society or to the weavers themselves; but moneys have been actually handed over to the particular Govern-

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ment officer. As the Hon'ble the Secretary was speaking, it was found that actual cheques on the National Bank of India for thousands of rupees were made over unto the then Superintendent of Industries, whatever be the name of the officer concerned. And if I imagined correctly, these cheques would not have passed through any Department. These were not Comptroller's cheques but perhaps found to be the cheques drawn and signed by the Diwan himself and handed over without going through the formalities of a departmental check. Such is the case here, and what do we find? Members who are espousing the cause of the public are being informed by signed petitions of weavers, in whose name this money is drawn, and in whose name the thing is purchased, who is made liable without the money having gone unto their hands, without their having purchased the yarn, without their being paid even for their labour, it is said that in the Co-operative Society that is formed they were to weave the yarn given to them, all got by the Government, and if the yarn is turned into cloth, they were to be given their hire for weaving it into cloth and for every rupee worth one anna was taken from them to form a nucleus of a fund for the society. I have been shown receipts for these one annas. From that we know how much of actual money was given to them. Now it is seen from the memorandum itself, that has been circulated yesterday, to be more specific, the Superintendent of Industries was to give expert advice. The Superintendent of Industries was to purchase yarn for them in the best market and was to exercise general control of such cash transactions between the Government and the society. It is clear from the statement that the Government itself have placed before this House that this liability is saddled upon these poor weavers, illiterate weavers in that village, though money has not passed through their hands. The money has passed through the Government officer's hands. He takes money, he purchases the yarn and the yarn has come back to the Museum at Trichur in the shape of cloth. And what happened? They are made to pay for cheques for which they never received money. They are asked to pay. And upon the strength of the assurance given by that officer who is to look after their interests, they signed whatever they were asked to sign, with the result that they are being sued in the Registrar's court and decrees are obtained against individual members of the society. Their movables, also things that they manufacture and everything, are being taken from them by force of law and they flee from the country. Some of them have already fled, as you have been kind enough to tell us, and some more are about to flee

President.—There will be no more fleeing.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—Very glad to hear that assurance from you, Sir. Further, it is surprising to note that these weavers were not only decreed to pay the actual amount which has been drawn from the Treasury by this officer and mishandled, as it appears to be, but they are saddled with 36 per cent of interest.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—37½.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I thank you for the correction. 37½ per cent of interest, the Government of Cochin is collecting from the poor weavers for whose help they came forward! That is an irony of fate! Here is the Government coming forward to help weavers to find work, to find a living, to find a better method of marketing with the best of intentions. The result has been that they have been saddled with 37½ per cent interest which even Marwaris do not take. Under these conditions the Government must do such amends as it possibly can. There is no use of crying over spilt milk. And, therefore, we, as a Party, have considered that case very deeply and have come to the conclusion to urge upon the Government to give them as best relief as the Government possibly can give them, under the hard circumstances for which the present Government is not responsible. So we wish to divide the House upon this question. I think we will agree to writing off this amount if Government also are agreed to write off the liabilities of the weavers and, if possible, to refund to them whatever has been collected.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—There is no "if possible".

Mr. A. B. Salem.—The feeling is to refund, if the Government can refund. The Party is for refunding the amount. That is the entire country, their countrymen that are here, are willing to give them the little money that has been collected by the hard process of law, by attachment of the little cloth they wove. Give it back to them. They are not responsible for this Kumbhakonam business that has taken place. (*Prolonged laughter.*)

President.—The Superintendent of Industries is not before us.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is why I don't want to say anything. Government handled it in an out-of-the-way routine, made proposals, rather made notes and extracts, all these are something extraordinary. They had no time to go through routine in a period of industria lactivity, upheaval of great industrial activity (*laughter*) with the result that the poor men, who took part in the industry, have to flee for safety. We should, therefore, make such amends as we possibly can. We request the Government, therefore, that we consent to the demand, if the Govern-

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ment also will generously consent to write off the weavers' liabilities and to give them a solatium.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will it be refunded?

President.—The Government can agree to write off the amount due. As regards the condition of refunding, we are not in a position to make a statement.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I may tell the House that I had a talk with the weavers and they are present in the House. If the Government cannot refund, they say, let the Government give us relief.

President.—You can assure them that we will not proceed against them.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—That assurance is quite sufficient.

President.—We will write off and in proper form we will come before this House.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—It may be noted like that.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—With your permission I may speak one or two words with regard to the observation of the Member in support of it. On the specified point of refund, the Hon'ble Member's reference was to the consent of the weavers. It is not a question of consent. They are illiterate and they want to avoid further trouble. That will be exposing their illiteracy and ignorance.

President.—No requisition has come from them. Government has not been able to consider the matter. So that, if there is a request, we shall consider. It is an independent matter. If the Government considers it a proper case for refunding, they will do it. Otherwise not.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—If the request comes, the Government will consider?

President.—Their idea is somehow or other let this bother be over. They do not want anything more.

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—That should not be any consolation for us.

The cut motion was withdrawn with leave.

Question proposed: '*That the Supplementary Grant asked for be granted.*'

Question put and agreed to.

Bill to amend the Cochin Criminal Procedure Code.

President.—The next item is 'the Law Member will move to introduce a Bill to amend the Cochin Criminal Procedure Code'.

Mr. A. Sankara Menon.—Sir, I move that the Bill to amend the Cochin Criminal Procedure Code be read in Council. The Bill to amend section 409 was once passed by this House

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